

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Andrew Keller, who is detailed to the Foreign Relations Committee from the State Department, be granted privileges of the floor for the duration of the debate on the Christopher Hill nomination.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Craig Bryant, a fellow in my office, be granted the privilege of the floor for the remainder of the day.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION WEEK

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 48, S. Res. 87.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 87) expressing the sense of the Senate that public servants should be commended for their dedication and continued service to the Nation during Public Service Recognition Week, May 4 through 10, 2009.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and that any statements related thereto be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 87) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 87

Whereas Public Service Recognition Week provides an opportunity to recognize and promote the important contributions of public servants and honor the diverse men and women who meet the needs of the Nation through work at all levels of government;

Whereas millions of individuals work in government service in every city, county, and State across America and in hundreds of cities abroad;

Whereas public service is a noble calling involving a variety of challenging and rewarding professions;

Whereas Federal, State, and local governments are responsive, innovative, and effective because of the outstanding work of public servants;

Whereas the United States of America is a great and prosperous Nation, and public service employees contribute significantly to that greatness and prosperity;

Whereas the Nation benefits daily from the knowledge and skills of these highly trained individuals;

Whereas public servants—

(1) defend our freedom and advance United States interests around the world;

(2) provide vital strategic support functions to our military and serve in the National Guard and Reserves;

(3) fight crime and fires;

(4) ensure equal access to secure, efficient, and affordable mail service;

(5) deliver Social Security and Medicare benefits;

(6) fight disease and promote better health;

(7) protect the environment and the Nation's parks;

(8) enforce laws guaranteeing equal employment opportunity and healthy working conditions;

(9) defend and secure critical infrastructure;

(10) help the Nation recover from natural disasters and terrorist attacks;

(11) teach and work in our schools and libraries;

(12) develop new technologies and explore the earth, moon, and space to help improve our understanding of how our world changes;

(13) improve and secure our transportation systems;

(14) promote economic growth; and

(15) assist active duty service members and veterans;

Whereas members of the uniformed services and civilian employees at all levels of government make significant contributions to the general welfare of the United States, and are on the front lines in the fight against terrorism and in maintaining homeland security;

Whereas public servants work in a professional manner to build relationships with other countries and cultures in order to better represent America's interests and promote American ideals;

Whereas public servants alert Congress and the public to government waste, fraud, abuse, and dangers to public health;

Whereas the men and women serving in the Armed Forces of the United States, as well as those skilled trade and craft Federal employees who provide support to their efforts, are committed to doing their jobs regardless of the circumstances, and contribute greatly to the security of the Nation and the world;

Whereas public servants have bravely fought in armed conflict in defense of this Nation and its ideals and deserve the care and benefits they have earned through their honorable service;

Whereas government workers have much to offer, as demonstrated by their expertise and innovative ideas, and serve as examples by passing on institutional knowledge to train the next generation of public servants;

Whereas May 4 through 10, 2009, has been designated Public Service Recognition Week to honor America's Federal, State, and local government employees; and

Whereas Public Service Recognition Week is celebrating its 25th anniversary through job fairs, student activities, and agency exhibits: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends public servants for their outstanding contributions to this great Nation during Public Service Recognition Week and throughout the year;

(2) salutes government employees for their unyielding dedication and spirit for public service;

(3) honors those government employees who have given their lives in service to their country;

(4) calls upon all generations to consider a career in public service; and

(5) encourages efforts to promote public service careers at all levels of government.

CELEBRATING ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF FINDLAY MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of

S. Res. 106 submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 106) celebrating the outstanding athletic accomplishments of the University of Findlay men's basketball team for winning the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II Championship.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 106) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, is as follows:

S. RES. 106

Whereas on March 28, 2009, the University of Findlay men's basketball team, known as the Oilers, won the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division II Championship, marking the first time in the history of the university that the basketball program achieved this mark;

Whereas the Oilers' undefeated record marks the first time a NCAA Division II basketball program has recorded 36 wins and 0 losses;

Whereas in winning the Division II National Championship, the Oilers have cemented their role as a symbol of pride for the past and present members of the University of Findlay community;

Whereas the Oilers have finished with a winning record for the past 24 seasons;

Whereas the University of Findlay athletic program strives to improve the academic quality of the university by fostering pride, unity, and academic scholarship to help its members contribute to their community in a significant manner;

Whereas each person, coach, and contributor to the team remained committed to ensuring the Oilers achieved this historic accomplishment; and

Whereas all supporters of the University of Findlay are to be praised for their dedication to, and pride in, the university's basketball program: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the University of Findlay men's basketball team for achieving their first ever Division II National Championship; and

(2) recognizes the University of Findlay athletic program for its accomplishments in both sports and academics.

COMMENDING THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT HUSKIES

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 107 submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 107) commending the University of Connecticut Huskies for their historic win in the 2009 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Women's Basketball Tournament.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. DODD. Madam President, I rise today with my colleague and friend, Senator LIEBERMAN, to congratulate the University of Connecticut Women's Basketball team for winning the 2009 NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Tournament. I know that I speak for the entire Connecticut Congressional Delegation when I say how proud I am to be able to stand here and acknowledge the accomplishments of this magnificent group of young women.

I have had the privilege of coming to the floor on numerous other occasions to applaud the Huskies for winning the NCAA Division I Tournament. In fact, this is the sixth time that the University of Connecticut Women's Basketball team has won this championship, the second highest number of wins in all of women's Division I history.

As they did in 1995 and 2002, the Huskies went the entire 2009 season undefeated. In addition to this incredible achievement, this year's team added another accomplishment that is truly unique in the history of the NCAA, as it has never before been achieved by any NCAA basketball team—they bested each and every one of their challengers by double digits. This tremendous accomplishment undoubtedly means that this year's team is not only among the best to play at UCONN, but one of the best college teams ever.

Numerous factors contributed to the Huskies' historic win, not the least of which is the steadfast dedication and well-honed skills of the individual players. Every player deserves special recognition for her work, and I would like to take a moment to specifically point out the achievements of the impressive trio of stars that led this year's team. Sophomore Maya Moore, senior point guard Renee Montgomery, and junior center Tina Charles all played critical roles in UCONN's victory. In recognition of their efforts, all three women have won numerous awards. Maya Moore was chosen as the Naismith Award winner, the Wooden Award winner, the State Farm Wade Trophy winner, the United States Basketball Writers Association player of the year, and the Associated Press player of the year. For her part, Renee

Montgomery was chosen as the winner of the Nancy Lieberman award, an honor that is reserved for the top point guard in the Nation. And Tina Charles, who had a staggering 25 points and 19 rebounds in the championship game, was honored as the Women's Final Four Most Valuable Player.

All three players were named State Farm First Team All-Americans and members of the Final Four First All Tournament Team. These are impressive awards and acknowledgments, but none of this could have been done without the other members of the team. These women, all of whom could be starters or stars at other programs, helped to deliver this year's national championship to UCONN. They are without question an impressive squad who have left an indelible mark upon the history of the Huskies basketball program. I would be remiss if I didn't take a moment to acknowledge the great play and important role that these women played. They are: Heather Buck; Lorin Dixon; Caroline Doty; Jacquie Fernandes; Meghan Gardler; Kalana Greene; Tiffany Hayes; Cassie Kerns; Jessica McCormack; Kaili McLaren; and Tahirah Williams.

In addition to the impressive talents of the young women who make up the team, one must not forget Geno Auriemma, who has led the Huskies to six national championships and three undefeated seasons during his tenure as head coach. For his efforts, Coach Auriemma has once again been picked as the Associated Press Coach of the Year, a well-deserved honor for such an accomplished and hard-working coach. And to add another honor to his impressive resume, Coach Auriemma was just named head coach of the U.S. Women's Olympic Team. I am sure he will bring the same dedication and skill to bringing us another gold medal as he has to UCONN. Also, Chris Dailey, associate head coach; Jamelle Elliott, assistant coach; and Shea Ralph, assistant coach, contributed immensely to the success of the team.

However, I firmly believe that the most important factor that led the UCONN women to victory this year is the character of each of the team's players. Make no mistake about it, these young women are very dedicated, and have worked extremely hard to get to where they are now. However, their tireless dedication and perseverance extend well beyond the basketball court. You may be interested to know that the UCONN women's basketball program has a 100-percent graduation rate among 4-year players. This statistic is truly astounding given the amount of time each of these women must spend meticulously perfecting her skills on the court. Clearly, each of these women possesses an unquenchable desire to succeed in everything she attempts, a characteristic that makes the team's triumph all the sweeter.

Madam President, thank you for the opportunity to speak about the accomplishments of the Huskies, a com-

mitted group of young women, whom, it is safe to say, are the pride of the State of Connecticut. Nothing demonstrates this better than the parade that was held in Hartford recently to honor the Huskies on their victory. A staggering 25,000 people came out to thank the coaches and team for their season. In Connecticut, the Huskies are as beloved, if not more so, than any other sports team. We are so proud of their victory and all these impressive young women have accomplished both on and off the court. So from all the fans of the UCONN Huskies in Connecticut and throughout the country and indeed the world, I say congratulations on a tremendous season and a wonderful accomplishment.

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 107) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, is as follows:

S. RES. 107

Whereas on April 7, 2009, the University of Connecticut Huskies defeated the University of Louisville Cardinals 76 to 54 in the final game of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division I Women's Basketball Tournament in St. Louis, Missouri;

Whereas the Huskies were undefeated in the 2009 season, with a record of 39-0, and bested each opposing team by at least double digits;

Whereas the Huskies have won 6 national titles, the second most in the history of NCAA Division I women's basketball;

Whereas sophomore forward Maya Moore was chosen as the Naismith Award winner, the Wooden Award winner, the State Farm Wade Trophy winner, the United States Basketball Writers Association player of the year, and the Associated Press player of the year;

Whereas senior point guard Renee Montgomery was chosen as the winner of the Nancy Lieberman award, which is given to the top point guard in the Nation;

Whereas junior center Tina Charles was chosen as the Women's Final Four Most Valuable Player;

Whereas sophomore forward Maya Moore, senior point guard Renee Montgomery, and junior center Tina Charles were chosen as State Farm First Team All-Americans;

Whereas sophomore forward Maya Moore, senior point guard Renee Montgomery, and junior center Tina Charles were chosen as members of the Final Four First All Tournament Team;

Whereas Head Coach Geno Auriemma was chosen as the Associated Press Coach of the Year;

Whereas the University of Connecticut women's basketball program has a 100 percent graduation rate among 4-year players, exemplifying the commitment of the team to achievement in the classroom as well as on the court;

Whereas each player, coach, athletic trainer, and staff member of the University of Connecticut Huskies dedicated their time